STAR OF MYSORE

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 15th March 2026

Ramzan get-together held

Narasimharaja (NR) MLA Tanveer Sait, who was felicitated for organising a get-together as part of Ramzan fasting at Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel in city on Friday, is seen with District in-Charge Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, MLAs T.S. Srivatsa, Ramesh Babu Bandi Siddegowda & D. Ravishankar, former MLC Siddaraju, District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, BJP State Spokesperson M.G. Mahesh and others. MLAs K. Harishgowda, G.T. Devegowda, Anil Chikkamadu and A.R. Krishnamurthy, BJP leaders L. Nagendra, Mahesh, Dr. Anil Thomas, Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar, DCP (Crime and Traffic) K.S. Sundar Raj, Sir Khazi of Mysuru Hazarath Moulana Mohammed Usman Shariff, former Mayor and KEA Chairman Ayub Khan, Muslim Co-operative Bank President K.C. Shoukath Pasha, City Congress President R. Murthy and others attended the get together.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE BODY'S WISDOM - NOURISH TO FLOURISH:

In his inimitable style, Shakespeare makes Hamlet exclaim, 'What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculty; in form and moving, how express and admirable; in action, how like an angel…' There is great truth in these words, but more often than not, we are unaware of it in our day to day dealings.

We recognise this only when we lose these precious faculties. We use the body giving it little thought or care.

The Buddha subjected his body to extreme ascetic self-mortification and nearly died. He then realised that weakening the body hindered mental clarity. It led him to adopt the 'Middle Path' that cared for the body's basic needs to attain a calm and focused mind. Sadly, even today there are those who believe that torturing the body can bring satisfaction and closeness to the Divine. The human body is a reservoir of wonders. To list a few facts — it is composed of roughly 100 trillion cells. It is more advanced than any computer. It has a heart that beats approximately three billion times in a lifetime and has 60,000 miles of blood vessels.

It has systems that constantly regenerate. To quote one example, 2.5 million red blood cells are produced every second. The nose can remember 50,000 different scents. The intestines, if stretched out, could cover a three-storied building.

The brain, an amazing organ, is the director of our actions, but it is the body that carries out its commands. When the body turns uncooperative, then the brain is close to being non-functional. This is why we should take good care of our bodies. Nutritious food, exercise and a good outlook on Life is a must. We ignore these at our own peril. One was aghast to hear of an MBBS aspirant who cut off his foot to join the ranks of the disabled and win admission into a college. They say that it is only when the well runs dry that we realise the value of water. Likewise, it is only when we lose our physical abilities, that we understand the value of the body. We should keep in mind that it is no crime to nourish the body, for only a healthy body can sustain a healthy mind.

—Leela Ramaswamy in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Goldfish drives custom-built car

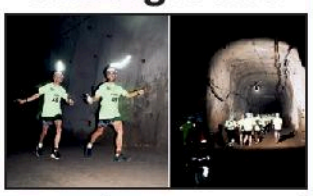
Amsterdam: A Netherlands engineer built a car for his pet goldfish, Blub, who drove the vehicle a distance of 40 feet in one minute to break a world record.

Thomas de Wolf constructed a four-wheeled vehicle with a water tank for a driver's seat. The vehicle is steered by analysing the movements of the goldfish inside the tank.

De Wolf said that while a car driven by a goldfish might not be particularly practical, the motion-sensing technology that it runs on could prove to be very useful to people with disabilities.

Blub the goldfish was placed into the car and he drove it for a distance of 40 feet and 3.46 inches, setting a new Guinness World Record for the greatest distance covered in a motion-sensing vehicle by a goldfish in one minute.

Runners with headlamps run underground



Garpenberg: A group of runners held a certified event 3,000 feet underground, earning them a Guinness World Record for the deepest marathon.

The marathon took place in Garpenberg, Sweden, and featured 55 runners from across 18 countries. The course measured 3,669 ft. and 10 inches underground.

Guinness World Records noted that the depth is between the height of the world's tallest waterfall, Angel Falls, and the UK's highest mountain Ben Nevis. Runners wore headlamps to compete in the event, which contained 11 laps and raised around $1million for charity.

"It' hot, it's humid, it's a bit dusty, but we're good," one of the competitors told Guinness World Records.

The event was a joint venture between companies BecomingX, ICMM and Boliden. The previous Guinness World Record for deepest marathon went to the Crystal Mine Underground Marathon in Germany, which took place 1,640 ft. and 5 inches below sea level.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Kidney Health Awareness

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LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Staging of 9-hour play 'Vachana Kalyana'

Calling artistes, singers

Mysuru, Mar. 15- The Kannada and Culture Department has invited applications from interested theatre artistes and singers (men and women) for performing in 'Vachana Kalyana,' a 9-hour-long play conceptualised by the Department.

Artistes aged between 18 and 40 years, who have undergone training in theatre education and acting in plays will be given preference.

Prescribed application forms can be obtained from Department website — ***www.kannadasiri.karnataka.gov.in*** — and the filled in forms, along with necessary documents, must be sent through registered post to: The Member Secretary, Santa Kavi Kanakadasa Mattu Tatvapadakarara Adhyayana Kendra, Kalagrama, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru - 560056, before Mar. 20 or e-mail: *kanakaresearchcentre@gmail.com*

For details, contact the Play Director C. Siddalingaiah on Mob: 94485-38620.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **110.82 feet**	Today's level **2,269.14 feet**	Today's level **2,829.88 feet**
Last year's level **110.28 feet**	Last year's level **2,271.55 feet**	Last year's level **2,834.73 feet**
Yesterday's level **111.15 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,269.36 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,829.90 feet**
Today's Inflow **212 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **76 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **222 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **3,986 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Kyoho is a Japanese variety of grapes that were developed in 1937 as a cross between the Vitis vinifera (European) and Vitis labrusca (American). These grapes are renowned for their size, which can be seen in its name, coming from a combination of characters for gigantic and peak.***
- ***The grapes are deep purple to almost black in colour, the texture is almost gelatinous, while the flesh has a sweet flavour and low acidity. In Japan, Kyoho grapes are eaten as they are, but they are also used as expensive gifts or in various desserts such as parfaits, cakes, fruit sandwiches, jellies, ice lollipops or as a topping for shaved ice.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A guy asked a beautiful lady standing next to him ...

'Nice perfume which one is it?... I want to gift it to my wife..!!'

Lady: *'Don't give her.... some idiot will find an excuse to talk to her..!!'*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 92.58
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 122.56
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 25.20
1 Euro	= Rs. 105.66

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138-tonne seized sandalwood AUCTION

Forest Department auction on Mar. 25; base price Rs. 1.25 crore; bid value to go up to Rs. 3 crore

Mysuru, Mar. 15 (AG,MTY & BCT)- For the first time in more than 10 years, the Karnataka Forest Department will auction sandalwood logs stored at the Government Sandalwood Depot (Sandal Koti) at Aranya Bhavana in Mysuru.

According to a notification issued by the Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Mysuru Division, 48 lots of sandalwood, weighing about 138 Metric Tonnes of different classifications will be auctioned on Mar. 25 from 11 am to 2 pm through an online e-auction.

The Department has fixed the base price at Rs. 1.50 crore. However, Mysuru DCF (Territorial) K. Paramesh said, the final bid value could go up to Rs. 2 crore or even Rs. 3 crore, depending on the demand.

The Government Sandalwood Depot (Sandal Koti) near Aranya Bhavana in Mysuru.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Paramesh said, the sandalwood to be auctioned comprises logs seized by the Forest Department and the Police over the past few years.

(See AUCTION on page 4)

Lalitha Mahal Grounds FENCED

Mysore Royal Family puts up 'Private Property' boards

Workers fencing the Lalitha Mahal Grounds yesterday to prevent unauthorised entry.

Mysuru, Mar. 15 (PM&BCT)- The erstwhile Mysore Royal Family has begun fencing the open grounds in front of Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, popularly known as Lalitha Mahal Grounds, asserting that the land is their private property. Signboards declaring the land as 'Private Property' are also being installed.

Cement poles are being fixed and fencing work is underway along T. Narasipur Road (Lalitha Mahal Road) near Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Circle. 'Private Property' signboards have already been put up and fencing is being extended around the grounds, except for the portion where the Indira Canteen is located near the Circle.

Traditionally, during Ashada Fridays, when thousands of devotees visit Chamundi Hill, the District Administration has been operating free transport services from this ground.

Private vehicles are restricted atop Chamundi Hill during the festival and devotees are ferried to the Hill from here free of cost. The same Lalitha Mahal Grounds are also used for parking devotees' vehicles during the festive period.

(See FENCED on page 9)

Male elephants outnumber females at forest camps

A tusker in musth condition at Dubare Elephant Camp.

Skewed sex ratio: Of 78 elephants in 8 camps, 64 are males, 9 are females, 5 are female calves

Mysuru, Mar. 15 (AG&BCT)- Elephant camps in Kodagu and Chamarajanagar districts that supply elephants for the Mysuru Dasara festival are facing a noticeable shortage of female elephants.

According to data available with the Forest Department, of the 78 elephants housed across eight camps, 64 are males. There are only nine females, pointing to a significant gender imbalance. There are five female calves in two elephant camps.

Data with *Star of Mysore* shows that several camps have very few or no female elephants, raising concerns about breeding and the long-term sustainability of the captive herd.

At the Dubare Elephant Camp in Kodagu, the largest camp in the region, 30 elephants are housed, 25 males, two females and three calves, reflecting one of the sharpest imbalances. Similarly, the Harangi Elephant Camp near Kushalnagar has six elephants, all of them males, with no females or calves. At the Mathigodu Elephant Camp on the Mysuru-Kodagu border, there are 16 elephants, including 12 males, two females and two calves.

(See ELEPHANTS on page 7)

Intl. Women's Day Special...

To commemorate International Women's Day-2026 and to celebrate women from different fields, *Star of Mysore* is publishing special interviews and articles during the month. Today *SOM* features an interview of DCF P. Anusha, the Executive Director of Mysuru Zoo, who has carved a niche for herself in the challenging world of forest and wildlife conservation. —**Ed** *[Turn to page 6]*

NEWS BRIEFS

Public meeting of Hootagalli CMC

Hootagalli CMC (City Municipal Council) has convened a meeting of residents coming under its limits, at its office in Hootagalli at 3 pm on Mar. 17, to hear opinions and suggestions of the general public, on Budget preparation. The members of the public coming under Hootagalli CMC jurisdiction are appealed to attend in large numbers and come up with their suggestions.

Anti-Obesity camp

JSS Ayurveda Hospital, located on Lalithadripura Road, Alanahalli in city, has organised an 'Anti-Obesity Camp' at its premises from Mar. 16 to 31. Camp will be open from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm on all the days till Mar. 31. For registration and details, contact Ph: 0821-2548231 or Mob: 98866-00552.

Free eye camp

NJS Charitable Trust, in association with Mysuru Veerashaiva Sajjana Sangha and Aravinda Eye Hospital, Coimbatore, have organised a free eye screening camp at Kanti Mallanna Kalyana Mandira, Kabir Road, Mandi Mohalla, from 7.30 am to 12.30 pm on Mar. 22. For registration, contact Mob: 94487-53597 or 99161-55453 or 94487-38657, according to a press release.

Obituary

Ahalya Vadiraj

Mysuru, Mar. 15- Ahalya Vadiraj (68), wife of retired KPTCL employee Vadiraj and a resident of Kuvempunagar 'K' Block, passed away following brief illness on her birthday yesterday.

She leaves behind her husband, one daughter, two sons and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this morning.

Shaheda Banu

Shaheda Banu (66), wife of businessman Mohammed Zaheerulla and a resident of Siddique Nagar, passed away following brief illness yesterday in city.

She leaves behind her husband, one son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza was held yesterday at 10.30 pm at Masjid-e-Khudadad in Siddique Nagar followed by the burial at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle.

S.R. Mahesh urges crackdown on LPG cylinder black market

Former Minister S.R. Mahesh (Centre) addressing a press meet at a private hotel in city yesterday, as (from left) MLC C.N. Manjegowda, MLA G.D. Harish Gowda, District JD(S) President M. Ashwin Kumar and MLC K. Vivekananda look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 15 (BLU&DM)- Alleging that some vested interests were indulged in hoarding and black marketing of LPG cylinders for creation of artificial shortage, former Minister and senior JD(S) leader S.R. Mahesh urged the State Government to take stringent action against such unscrupulous elements.

Addressing a press meet at a private hotel here yesterday, Mahesh asserted that as at present, there is no energy crisis in the entire country, with Prime Minister Modi headed NDA Government handling the current LPG Cylinder crisis well. However, the State Government should take suitable measures to thwart efforts to create an artificial shortage of LPG cylinders, he said and urged the Government to crack down on hoarders and illegal re-filling of cylinders.

Taking strong objection to the statements made against Union Minister and State JD(S) President H.D. Kumaraswamy by followers of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during a protest in front of ITC company, Mahesh urged the CM's supporters to instead take up farmer issues with the CM and get them addressed, which will be of great help to farmers.

"JD(S) supremo and former PM H.D. Deve Gowda and H.D. Kumaraswamy are the leaders who really care for the farmers. A delegation under their leadership, along with Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, recently met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and appraised him of the problems of tobacco growers of Karnataka, to which the Minister assured of finding a permanent solution", he said .

Commenting on the Government's decision to drop its plans for stadium construction in KSIC premises at T. Narasipur, Mahesh urged the Government to initiate measures for handing back the land, which was given to the Department for Youth Empowerment and Sports for stadium construction to KSIC. Cautioning the Government against making any renewed efforts for stadium construction, he warned of a severe agitation if the Government fails to return the land back to KSIC.

MLA G.D. Harish Gowda, MLCs C.N. Manjegowda and K. Vivekananda, JD(S) District President M. Ashwin Kumar, City President SBM Manju, party leaders Krishna Nayak, Dwarakeesh, Shyamanna, M.J. Ravikumar and Abhishek were present.

Hoteliers demand 25 percent LPG cylinder supply to hotel industry

Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda addressing a press meet here yesterday as Hotel Owners Association Charitable Trust General Secretary Subramanya R. Tantri and State Hotel owners Association Director K.S. Arun look on.

Mysuru, Mar.15 (MTY&DM) - With the entire country grappling with LPG cylinder crisis due to war in the Gulf, the Mysuru Hotel Owners Association has urged the Government to route at least 25 percent of commercial LPG cylinder supplies to the hotel Industry.

Addressing a press meet here yesterday, Association President C. Narayanagowda said that the current situation regarding LPG cylinder shortage reminds us of COVID times.

"There are about 1,500 hotels in the city and 10 percent of them have shut down due to non-supply of commercial cylinders. Though use of electric induction stoves and firewood has increased, this has reduced the problem to only some extent. The Government should consider the hotel Industry as an emergency service and take measures for continued supply of LPG cylinders", Narayanagowda maintained.

Continuing, he said the LPG cylinder crisis has also hit the tourism industry. "Mysuru, which is an important tourist centre in the State, used to see 50,000 tourist footfalls every day during week days and 1.5 to 3 lakhs during weekends on an average. But due to non-availability of LPG cylinders, hotels are unable to meet the food needs for this large number of tourists. The crisis has also resulted in cancellation of advance room bookings by tourists,which has severely affected the hospitality industry. No new room bookings are being done, which has pushed the hospitality and the hotel industry into deep crisis. The disruption in cylinder supply has also hurt the employees and workers who are dependent on the hotel and hospitality industry for their livelihood, with hotels shutting down one after the other," he noted.

Pointing out that other than the Public Sector Oil-Marketing companies, six private companies are selling LPG cylinders at present. But these private companies are selling cylinders at about Rs. 4,000 each, which is highly expensive for hoteliers, he said adding that currently, hoteliers have only marginally hiked prices of food in some cases. "However, due to shortage of cylinders, several hotel owners have reduced the menu and recipes," he said.

Association Hon. Secretary A.R. Ravindra Bhat, State Committee member Arun Kumar and Subramanya Tantri were present.

138-tonne seized sandalwood auction

(Continued from page 3)

"Earlier, such auctions were conducted regularly once a year, but the practice had been discontinued for the past few years. We want to generate revenue for the Forest Department and hence we are auctioning the 138 tonnes of sandalwood," DCF Paramesh said.

He added that the stock includes over 21 varieties of sandalwood, such as 'Vilayath Budh,' 'China Budh,' 'Panjim,' 'Ghotla,' 'Ghatbadiya,' 'Bagardad' and 'Ainbagar.'

"Usually, bidders include Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Limited, which manufactures the famous Mysore Sandal Soap, besides private buyers," he said.

The Forest Department has sandalwood depots (Sandal Koti) at Mysuru, Dharwad and Shivamogga, but this auction will be conducted only at the Mysuru Depot, DCF Paramesh added.

He also noted that members of the public are allowed to purchase up to three kilograms of sandalwood from the depots after producing their Aadhaar cards, while larger quantities are sold through auctions.

The auction will be conducted online through the MSTC e-commerce platform. A pre-bid meeting will be held on Mar. 17 at 4 pm at the DCF's Office in Mysuru.

Interested bidders can inspect the sandalwood logs at the Government Sandalwood Depot till Mar. 17 between 10.30 am and 4.30 pm on working days, the notification stated.

Bidders must register in advance on the MSTC e-auction platform and pay an Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs. 1 lakh to participate. Blacklisted bidders, defaulters, minors and insolvent persons will not be permitted to take part in the auction, the notification added.

VOICE OF THE READER

Eiffel Tower in Hebbal?

Sir,

As a resident of Hebbal 2nd Stage in Mysuru, it is a matter of concern to see a structure resembling a replica of the Eiffel Tower coming up suddenly in a residential area surrounded by a school, two colleges and several houses. As a tax-paying citizen, I am worried about the safety of residents and children in the vicinity. How can such tall electric poles, resembling an Eiffel Tower, be installed in a residential locality?

Were the necessary permissions obtained for this installation, or has it been allowed despite irregularities? I request the authorities concerned to look into the matter and take appropriate action in the interest of residents.

—Dr. Anisha Kumar

Hebbal
5.3.2026

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AWARENESS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

CLUE-IN Community for Learning and Unlearning in Education, India, is a non-profit NGO. It is a small group of academic professionals working to advocate for quality education.

The organization spreads awareness about the need for quality education in communities with the motto **"Education for Quality of Life."**

As part of **CLUE IN** outreach initiatives, we are conducting a workshop on the topic: **"The Importance of Parents Spending Quality Time with Their Child at Home Through Activities / Play for Parents of Children Aged 3–8."**

In today's fast-paced world, spending quality time with children has become difficult for many parents. Work pressures, financial stress, long commuting hours, and digital devices often reduce the time families spend together.

However, meaningful interaction between parents and children remains essential for a child's cognitive, physical, social, and emotional development.

In early childhood, children value attention, shared experiences, and emotional connection more than material comforts.

Parents' undivided attention, even through simple daily activities such as reading stories, playing games, drawing, gardening, or having meaningful conversations, can positively support a child's development. Research shows that a lack of parental attention at an early age can affect children's cognitive abilities and emotional well-being. At the same time, quality time during early childhood builds trust and open communication, helping children share their thoughts and experiences as they grow.

CLUE IN is organizing an activity-driven workshop to encourage parents to consciously spend quality time with their children through play, conversation, and shared activities.

The workshop is scheduled on **March 22 and March 29, from 10:00 AM to12:00 Noon,** and will be facilitated by experts in the field. Young parents can make use of it. Session registration **www.cluein.in** or scanning QR code. For any query email to **info@cluein.in**

—Promotional Feature

CSIR-CFTRI develops Mobile Processing Unit for Northeast Region

Meghalaya Governor C.H. Vijayashankar inaugurates Unit

Mysuru, Mar. 15- CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, has developed a Mobile Processing Unit (MPU) for Northeast Region for processing of fruits and vegetables.

This was designed and developed for Northeast Centre for Technology Application & Reach (NECTAR), Shillong, an autonomous institute under DST, Government of India.

The Unit was inaugurated on Mar.13 by C.H. Vijayashankar, Governor of Meghalaya, in the presence of Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, Director General, NECTAR and Dr. Giridhar Parvatam, Director, CSIR-CFTRI.

The chief objective of this MPU is to control or reduce wastage of huge quantities of fruits and vegetables in Northeast and present multiple possibilities for processing of fruits and vegetables on wheels at the doorsteps of medium and small holding farmers.

Besides, MPU also serves as a viable and profitable business opportunity that can substantially support the farmers and producers.

Further, skill development and promotion programmes would be organised on the processing of fruits and vegetables locally grown and value-added products like pulps, juices, beverages, canned products, dehydrated products, pickles, jams, etc., can be produced.

Funding and coordination of the project for efficient implementation was done by NECTAR.

Dr Umesh Hebbar, Chief Scientist & Head, Food Engineering Department; Dr. Aashitosh A. Inamdar, Chief Scientist & Head, Technology Transfer and Business Development Department and H.N. Punil Kumar, Senior Technical Officer, Food Engineering Department of CSIR-CFTRI were present during the event.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL...

Passion for wildlife drives Zoo Director P. Anusha to break barriers in Forest Service

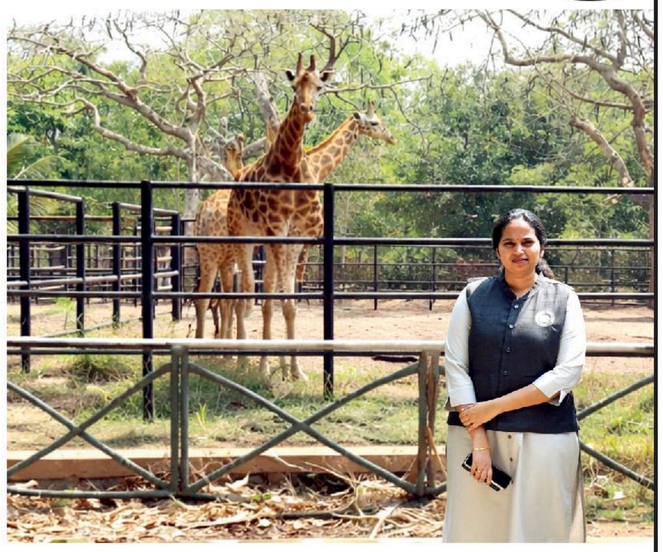
Wildlife, her calling

Anusha, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) and the Executive Director of Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, popular as Mysuru Zoo, has carved a niche for herself in the challenging world of forest and wildlife conservation, a field long dominated by men.

She has spent years on the frontline protecting forests, taking on poachers, tackling forest land encroachments and preventing fires.

Known for her passion and commitment, Anusha has been striving to create a safe and enriching environment for both animals and visitors at the Zoo. A strong advocate of animal welfare, she ensures that the Zoo's residents receive the best possible care.

Star of Mysore caught up with Anusha, where she spoke about her journey, challenges and the responsibilities that come with managing one of the country's most popular Zoos. Excerpts:



By S. Kenneth Shishir

Star of Mysore (SOM): What inspired you to pursue a career in the Forest Service and how did your journey lead you to the post of Executive Director of Mysuru Zoo?

P. Anusha: I was inspired by the forest stories written by Poornachandra Tejaswi. His writings fascinated me and sparked my interest in forests and wildlife, which eventually motivated me to become a Forest Officer. With that goal in mind, I pursued a B.Sc in Forestry.

After completing my undergraduate course in 2016, I joined the Forest Department and was selected as a Range Forest Officer in 2017. Later, I cleared a departmental examination and was promoted to Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF). While serving as an ACF in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, I was promoted to Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF). In 2025, I was posted as the Executive Director of Mysuru Zoo.

SOM: You work in a field largely dominated by men. Any thoughts on this?

Anusha: Today, women are present in almost every field and are capable of performing their duties on par with men. There is no gender bias in the Forest Service when it comes to responsibilities. As we move to higher cadres, the work becomes more intellectual and administrative rather than purely physical.

Each of us is responsible for shaping our own future. It is important to choose a career path that aligns with our interests. When you work in a field you truly enjoy, recognition, success and personal satisfaction naturally follow.

SOM: How do you think women's perspectives contribute to wildlife conservation efforts?

Anusha: Women bring certain unique strengths to wildlife conservation, such as empathy, collaboration and a community-oriented approach to problem-solving. These qualities are very valuable in conservation work.

Many women conservationists have led community-based initiatives, working closely with local communities to protect wildlife and promote coexistence between humans and animals. Their approach often focuses on education, outreach and building trust, which are crucial in addressing human-wildlife conflict.

SOM: Can you share an experience from your career that has been particularly memorable?

Anusha: One of the most memorable phases of my career was my posting in Nagarahole. At times, I had to stay inside the forest for months, especially during the rainy season.

Even for necessities like buying vegetables, I had to travel to nearby villages or towns. Some of my relatives used to feel sorry for me because of the challenges involved. But for me, it was a very special and memorable experience. Living and working close to the forest gave me immense satisfaction.

SOM: How does the Zoo prioritise animal welfare and ensure the well-being of its residents?

Anusha: Mysuru Zoo places great importance on animal welfare and works to create a comfortable and healthy environment for all its residents. During summer, cooling systems such as water jets and sprinklers are installed in animal enclosures to help them cope with the heat. Their diet is also adjusted according to seasonal requirements.

The Zoo also focuses strongly on disease prevention. Veterinarians conduct regular health check-ups and staff members are trained to identify any abnormal behaviour or symptoms in animals.

SOM: Can you share some of the Zoo's notable conservation breeding programmes?

Anusha: We have been making steady progress in conservation breeding programmes, particularly for endangered species such as the Lion-tailed Macaque, Indian Gaur, Indian Grey Wolf, Indian Dhole and Jungle Fowl.

These programmes aim to increase the population in a controlled environment and eventually support their reintroduction into the wild, thereby contributing to long-term wildlife conservation.

SOM: How does the Zoo engage visitors and promote conservation education?

Anusha: Mysuru Zoo promotes conservation awareness through several visitor-oriented initiatives. We have see-through display areas and naturalistic enclosures that allow visitors to observe animals in settings that resemble their natural habitats.

We also organise workshops, lectures and interactive sessions focusing on wildlife conservation and environmental protection. We also have an animal adoption scheme, through which visitors can adopt animals and contribute to conservation efforts.

SOM: What interactive experiences or programmes does the Zoo offer for visitors?

Anusha: Visitors can explore the Zoo with knowledgeable guides who explain animal habitats, conservation efforts and interesting facts about different species. The aviary area is another attraction where visitors can observe various bird species and their behaviour.

We also run a Youth Club that conducts annual camps on conservation for children. Wildlife documentaries are screened at the Zoo's amphitheatre and important wildlife-related days are also observed to create awareness among visitors.

SOM: How does the Zoo measure the effectiveness of its conservation education efforts?

Anusha: Mysuru Zoo evaluates the impact of its conservation education initiatives in several ways. We conduct educational programmes, workshops and lectures for students, tourists and local communities.

We also track participation in initiatives such as Zoo Summer Camp and conservation awareness talks. We aim to create awareness right from the school level. We also interact with interested youths and students so that they become wildlife conservation ambassadors.

SOM: What message would you like to convey to young women aspiring to join the Forest Service?

Anusha: There is no difference between men and women when it comes to pursuing a career. Young women should listen to their inner calling and work towards achieving what they truly want to become.

Also, it is important to build confidence among families, especially parents, about the safety and opportunities available in such careers. When parents feel reassured, they will be more willing to encourage their daughters to take up challenging roles and postings.

Mysuru Zoo Executive Director P. Anusha interacting with the Zoo women staff.

Kempegowda Circle flyover works

Ensure movement of smooth traffic: MP Yaduveer

Mysuru, Mar. 15 (VVH&DM)- Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar yesterday inspected the progress of the ongoing flyover works at **Kempegowda Circle (Manipal Hospital Junction)** on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway, being carried out by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Later speaking to presspersons, Yaduveer Wadiyar said that the traffic signal at the junction used to often become a 'Choke Point' on the every busy road. The NHAI authorities have been directed to address this issue and pave the way for smooth flow of traffic on the road by executing the works at a faster pace.

"The works was sanctioned after a meeting with officials at New Delhi on Jan. 19, 2026. Now I have directed the officials to expedite the works and to ensure that the works are executed without creating problems for traffic movement and public movement. As there is heavy traffic on the roads during weekends, I have spoken to officials on deployment of more Traffic Policemen at the junction to handle vehicular movement. I have also instructed for maintaining best quality throughout the works and to ensure cleanliness in the vicinity," he pointed out.

Asserting that the frequent vehicle density problem at the junction would be solved with the completion of the works, he said that the works will also ensure smoother entry and exit to Mysuru. This apart, the works will be of more benefit to all members of the public who use the road, he added.

Referring to the Tobacco price issue, Yaduveer said, he, along with Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and former PM H.D. Deve Gowda, met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal regarding tobacco price issue to which the Minister has assured of finding a long-lasting solution, which will be of benefit to tobacco growers.

Commenting on the LPG cylinder problem, the MP said, no one need to be unnecessarily concerned about the crisis. Maintaining that the Union Government, under PM Modi, has taken all precautionary measures to ensure no Energy crisis erupts in the near future, he sought public co-operation for the Centre's efforts to supply LPG to all 33 crore domestic connections across the country.

Officials of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), NHAI and Forest Department were present.

Male elephants outnumber females

(Continued from page 3)

At the Bheemanakatte Elephant Camp near Periyapatna, both the elephants housed there are males. In the Nagarahole region, the Doddaharave Elephant Camp has one female elephant, while the Balle Elephant Camp has two elephants, one male and one female.

The Ramapura Elephant Camp, also known as Ainooru Maarigudi Camp near Bandipur Tiger Reserve, houses 20 elephants, including 17 males and three females. At the K. Gudi Elephant Camp near Biligiri Rangantha Tiger Reserve, there is only one elephant and it is a male.

Skewed ratio, musth condition

With only nine female elephants across all camps, the male-female ratio is heavily skewed. The problem becomes more serious when male elephants enter musth.

Currently, four of the six elephants at Harangi Elephant Camp are in musth. At Dubare, three elephants are in musth, while one tusker at Bheemanakatte is also undergoing the phase.

Elephants in musth experience a surge in testosterone, leading to heightened aggression and a strong urge to mate. The shortage of female elephants during this period can lead to conflicts between bulls for dominance and cause them to behave unpredictably.

Mahouts say controlling elephants in musth is extremely challenging. During this phase, the animals often injure themselves by rubbing against large tree trunks or driving their tusks into them. To prevent accidents, elephants in musth are usually chained and kept isolated. Even other elephants instinctively avoid them. "No one dares to go near a musth elephant. They also refuse to eat and lose weight rapidly," said J.K. Dhobi, an experienced caretaker who has worked with elephants for more than 50 years.

Calming effect

"Female elephants act as a calming influence on males and are not meant only for mating. That is why the Dasara Howdah elephant is always accompanied by two female elephants on either side during the Vijayadashami procession so that it remains calm. Earlier, the ratio between male and female elephants would be equal at all elephant camps. Now that is not the case," Dhobi explained.

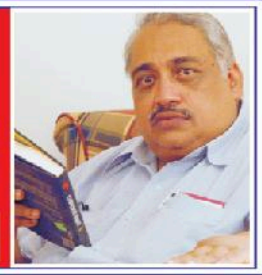
Wildlife activist Joseph Hoover said that the 64:9 male-to-female ratio is worrying. "Tourists should not be allowed inside elephant camps when male elephants become unpredictable due to the absence of females. The Forest Department must take steps to address the issue," he said.

Two females to be shifted: DCF

Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Madikeri Division, Abhishek said, steps are being taken to manage the situation.

"We release elephants in musth into the forest in a controlled and monitored manner so that they can mate with wild females. A proposal to shift two female elephants from Ramapura Elephant Camp has been approved. One female will be immediately moved to Harangi Elephant Camp, while the other will be shifted either to Dubare or Mathigodu," he said.

Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

Runaway reminiscences of rail travel and rail travel reading!

In this fourth episode of the reminiscences of my rail journeys from the past, I would like to point out that I am finding it rather difficult to stop my ramblings on this topic, for the simple reason that many readers have kept urging me to write more on the same subject, which seems to be as dear to them, as it is to me.

Going by this observation, it is perhaps rightly said that rail travel has a very unique kind of romance, that comes attached to no other mode of travel, although travelling itself, by any means, happens to be a very romantic activity.

This is also why hundreds of books have been written by avid and even intrepid rail travellers from across the world, with a good many of them having seen runaway success, still remaining best-sellers, running into many reprints, over many years. And, according to me, the one author who undisputedly rides on the crest of this wave of popularity, is **Paul Theroux,** the now eighty-five-year young novelist and travel writer, among whose many books, *The Great Railway Bazaar,* is the undisputed magnum opus.

He wrote this book, which has now become a classic in this genre, when he relocated to London in 1972, after an admirable saga of travels and adventures across the world and this book happens to be a travelogue of his epic journey from Great Britain to Japan and back.

After its runaway success, he wrote at least half a dozen other travel books, with each one being just as good as the other. What makes his books unique is the very candid and extremely humorous narration of his observations from train windows and his encounters with his fellow travellers and the people of the towns and cities he has visited. He has had his share of controversies too.

One of his books was banned by the Singapore government for thirty years and all his books were banned by the apartheid government of South Africa, when they seemed to cast those two countries in poor, if not completely bad light.

The man has collaborated with **photographer Steve McCurry** of *National Geographic*-fame, who has lent some of his most iconic images to a good many of the writer's books. The closest Indian equivalent of Paul Theroux is good old **Ruskin Bond,** who in his own way of nostalgic storytelling, has made an admirable and very well-deserved place for himself in travel writing, not only in our country but also across the world. He too remains high in the list of my most loved travel writers.

A third but surprisingly much lesser-known travel writer is **Bishwanath Ghosh,** who has authored about half a dozen highly readable books, with *Chai Chai,* being the one on rail travel, which I am rereading right now, mind you, concurrently, along with one of his other books *Aimless in Banaras,* which is about his wanderings in the city which he first visited, to cremate his mother, at the famed **Manikarnika Ghat**.

Yes, I have this rather odd habit of reading up to three and sometimes even four books, simultaneously, with one lying in my library, living room, bedroom and my car too. Believe me, they live in peace and harmony with each other and their vastly wide-ranging storylines do not confuse me one bit, while certainly quadrupling my reading pleasure!

Now, leaving books on rail travel aside and returning back to my own rail travels, I must say that my memories have remained so pleasant and vivid, that I can just never stop reminiscing about them, even if I am not narrating them before anyone. Not only trains but also something as ordinary as railway platforms, have been the source of endless delight and fascination for me from the

days of my childhood.

Waiting eagerly for a train to arrive would always be the most exciting kind of waiting and its distant whistle or vision, as it approached the platform, would always make my heart leap with joy. And, after this wait, my joy would double if I could find myself a window seat, something I still strive to do, in whatever mode of travel I take, be it train, cab, coach or plane.

I feel aghast if not completely outraged, when I often see travellers who ask for and take window seats, only to lean back and doze off, even before the journey begins. I wonder of what good a window seat is, if it does not become a window to the world, for someone who is privileged to sit in it?

Even after I had finished growing up and was done with my necessary quota of rail travel that arose out of sheer need, the lure of trains and railway stations has not left me. In my days as a medical student at Gulbarga (Kalaburagi), I used to spend much time on the railway platform, even when I was not going anywhere. Because photography was my most passionate hobby, late at night, after my studies were over, I used to develop all my films myself in the makeshift darkroom I had made in my bathroom.

And while waiting for them to dry, I would walk to the railway station, a mile away, which was the only place where I could pick up something to munch on in the middle of the night, to ease my untimely hunger pangs. During the progress of this process, I developed a very close friendship with another senior medical student, **Pradyumna Kumar Kakade** who was a wizard in photochemistry and **Ashok Vaidikar,** a very talented artist and photographer, whose family owned the **Chirayu Photo Studio** in Gulbarga. I am still in constant touch with Ashok and on a recent visit to Mumbai for a medical conference, my wife and I had even been invited for dinner at his flat in Navi Mumbai, where we spent a happy time, which we both wished would never end.

We regularly exchange notes about cameras and lenses and the latest advances in photography, when we are not reminiscing about the good old times and it is one of the greatest pleasures, for both of us.

Kakade, however, is sadly out of sight and out of touch too and all my efforts to trace him, despite much help from Instagram and Facebook, have been in vain. I have finished calling up and speaking to every doctor with the surname Kakade in Satara, which was where he hailed from. Though he was the son of a Judge there and very surprisingly, despite Satara being a small city, no one there seems to be knowing the present whereabouts of his family. I am hoping against hope that my friend will somehow chance upon this article, through the world-wide net and send me a mail sometime. Yes, that has happened on a few occasions in the past, after I started writing this column.

After making these two friends in Gulbarga very soon after I began my life there, my visits to the railway platform became more frequent because now I did not have to spend time just while waiting for my films to dry but also because I had at least one of them to discuss photography at length, long into the nights. The Gulbarga station was and still is, a hub through which all the trains connecting the three peninsular States with the rest of the country, especially Bombay, pass round-the-clock. And so, its platform, although threadbare, had a busy canteen, the contract for running which seemed to have been given on a permanent lease to the same family over many generations.

I say this because the man managing it during my time there used to tell me that his family had been holding the contract from the time of his great-grandfather and my friends in Gulbarga, now tell me, almost fifty years later, that his grandson is still managing it! Perhaps because of its ancient lineage, that canteen that functioned day and night, was the place where the best tasting bread-omelette could be had, round-the-clock, come rain, shine or even curfew!

And, if you were a little bored of eating this same fare, in the same place, there always was Sham Café, just next to the exit of the railway station, which seemed to have evolved in a huge stone structure, that was most certainly a tomb from the times of the Bahamani Sultans. Its rather eerie history notwithstanding, that was a place, where if you were not scared of resident ghosts, you could, till long past midnight, hope to get freshly fried *Mirchi Bajjis* and plain fried eggs, sunny side up or well done, depending on your preference, but always sprinkled liberally, with red hot chili powder.

In this matter somehow, you just had no choice because what seemed too hot to handle for you, seemed to be the mildest fare the cook there could think of serving, to hold on to the respectability of that place! That was the fiery stuff over which my two friends and I used to sit for hours and lose our sleep, most happily, while discussing nothing but photography.

Thankfully and very surprisingly, none of us became permanent insomniacs, over six long years, which is perhaps a miracle, the reason for which, medical science has not been able to explain!

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Lalitha Mahal Grounds fenced

The 'Private Property' signboard installed at the fenced section.

(Continued from page 3)

Apart from religious occasions, the Lalitha Mahal Grounds have hosted Dasara Food Mela, cricket matches, sporting events, public meetings and large gatherings for several years. Because of this, the land has long been perceived by the public as government property.

The sudden fencing and declaration of private ownership have therefore triggered widespread discussion in public circles.

The Grounds lie adjacent to the road that leads directly to the Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel. While the fenced ground lies on one side of the road, there is also vacant land on the other side. Fencing is now being carried out on both sides, covering all areas except the access road to the hotel.

Pramoda Devi cites Court ruling

Pramoda Devi Wadiyar, a member of the erstwhile Mysore royal family, has asserted that the Lalitha Mahal Grounds are her private property and has initiated the fencing work. In 2020, a court ruled that the grounds belong to the Mysore royal family, stating that no portion of the land is Government property.

According to staff from the royal family office present at the fencing site, even during Ashada Fridays, the District Administration has been using the grounds for transportation arrangements only with the permission of Pramoda Devi Wadiyar.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, she said, "The Court ruled in 2020 that these Grounds belong to us. We have taken steps to fence the area to prevent illegal and unethical activities. In the past, we have allowed the Grounds to be used for public programmes with our permission and will continue to do so. In fact, we have also allowed the Grounds to be used for public programmes with our permission and will continue to do so."

Pramoda Devi

> The Court ruled in 2020 that the Lalitha Mahal Grounds belong to us. We have taken steps to fence the area to prevent illegal and unethical activities. In the past, we have allowed the Grounds to be used for public programmes with our permission and will continue to do so.
>
> **— Pramoda Devi Wadiyar, Member, Mysore royal family**

Official records

Meanwhile, official records show that in Kurubarahalli Survey No. 72, about 43 acres, and in Alanahalli Survey No. 41, about 9 acres and 39 guntas, are listed under the Tourism Department in the RTC (Record of Rights, Tenancy and Crops).

However, Mysuru Taluk Tahsildar K. M. Mahesh Kumar said he could not comment on the issue immediately. "Since I have not personally inspected the site, I do not have information at present about which exact land is being fenced and to whom it belongs," he said.

Gate installed at Lalitha Mahal helipad area in 2021

In January 2021, a gate was installed at the Lalitha Mahal helipad area, along with a signboard declaring that the property belonged to Pramoda Devi Wadiyar.

The board read: "This land is the private property of P.D. Wadiyar. Legal action will be initiated against anyone found trespassing or conducting unauthorised transactions — Palace Estate Officer, Mysuru."

Following this, Pramoda Devi Wadiyar held a press conference to clarify the decision.

"As per the Court's judgment, we installed the gate at the Lalitha Mahal helipad to protect our property. There is no ill intention behind this. The gate was fixed only to safeguard our asset. We have not put up any fencing along the road portion," she had said.

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The tender forms and details can also be downloaded from **http://jsshospital.in/Tenderds-and Notification**. if need be, they may visit hospital to assess the parking area and requirements to propose accordinglyin consultation with AO office on or before 23rd March 2026 between 10.00 am to 05.00 pm on all working days.

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ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಅಸಂ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಐಆರ್–01 /2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.03.2026

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ–2000 ರಂತೆ, ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಅವಗಾಹನೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಹುಣಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಡಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿರುವ 55 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಅರಣ್ಯೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು, ಅರ್ಹ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿ: 18.03.2026 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 20.03.2026 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 20.03.2026 ರಂದು 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ, ಈ ಕೆಳ ಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಅಥವಾ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

DIPR/DDMYS/1821/KSMCA/1029/2025-26

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WORD OF THE DAY

Gambit

Pronunciation: GAM-bit (noun)
Meaning: A gambit is something done or said in order to gain an advantage or to produce a desired effect.
Origin: Don't let the similarities of sound and general flavour between gambit and gamble trip you up; the two words are unrelated. Gambit first appeared in English in a 1656 chess handbook that was said to feature almost a hundred illustrated gambetts. Gambett traces back first to the Spanish word gambito and before that to the Italian gambetto, from gamba meaning "leg." Gambetto referred to the act of tripping someone, as in wrestling, in order to gain an advantage. In chess, gambit (or gambett, as it was once spelled) originally referred to a chess opening whereby the bishop's pawn is intentionally sacrificed — or tripped — to gain an advantage in position. Gambit is now applied to many other chess openings, but after being pinned down for years, it also finally broke free of chess's hold and is used generally to refer to any "move," whether literal or rhetorical, done to get a leg up, so to speak. While such moves can be risky, gambit is not synonymous with gamble, which likely comes from Old English gamen, meaning "amusement, jest, pastime"—source too of game.
Example: "Now the book publishing industry has sent a message to all A.I. companies: Our intellectual property isn't yours for the taking and you cannot act with impunity. This settlement is an opening gambit in a critical battle that will be waged for years to come." — Andrea Bartz, The New York Times, 1 Oct. 2025

THE ODD WORD

Abducent

Turning away; bearing away from.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Without a doubt

Meaning: You use the expression 'Without a doubt' to indicate that there is no uncertainty about something.
Origin: No one is certain when the expression 'without a doubt' originated, but the English word "doubt" originated in the 13th century as a reference to the 11th century Old French "doter" which in turn was taken from the latin "dubitare." It is likely that as long as people have had doubt or wavering opinions, there has been some form of negating expression such as the "without a doubt" we use today.
Example: "Does she love him?" Answer: "Without a doubt!"

QUOTE BOX

Fortune favours the prepared mind. **—Louis Pasteur**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

OVER
OVER

Answer: Left overs (2x over left).

SUDOKU

	3		8					
					4	9		5
	1	8	2			4		
	8			5		6		7
			4		7			
3		7		8			1	
		3			1	8	4	
1		9	6					
					9		7	

Answer to previous puzzle

2	3	7	6	4	9	8	1	5
4	9	1	8	5	2	3	6	7
6	5	8	1	3	7	9	2	4
7	6	2	4	8	5	1	9	3
5	8	3	9	6	1	7	4	2
9	1	4	7	2	3	5	8	6
3	4	6	5	9	8	2	7	1
1	2	9	3	7	4	6	5	8
8	7	5	2	1	6	4	3	9

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

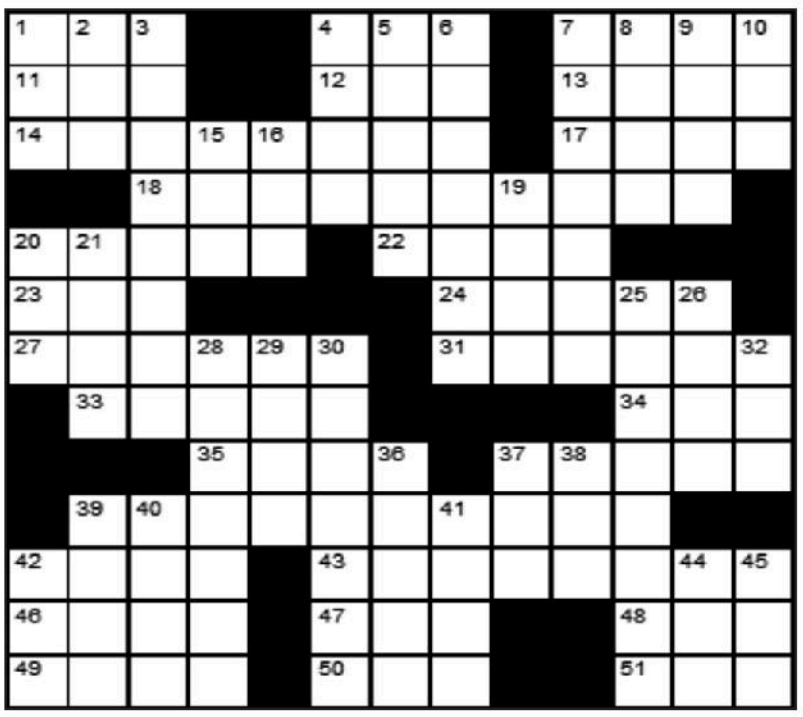
1 Evergreen tree
4 Two for the bard
7 Platform for a coffin
11 Dutch commune
12 Hormone replacement therapy, abbr.
13 Covetousness
14 Circumspect
17 Expanse
18 Articulates precisely
20 Plucked string sound
22 A Malayan dagger with a wavy blade
23 A black European beetle
24 Bring out
27 Distinctive part
31 Count on or rely on
33 Reshma and ____ : Rajasthan's Juliet & Romeo?
34 Latter Day Saints, abbr.
35 Cut with shears
37 Belief in god
39 Extremely vulnerable (3,2,1,4)
42 King of Israel (BC 877-876)
43 Very agitated (2,1,5)
46 Bearing
47 Nav Data Base
48 Portable bed
49 Male of deer
50 Oxygen for one; nitrogen for another?
51 Affirmative

THURSDAY'S ANSWER

O	L	E	G	■	L	A	D	S	■	C	B	S
L	O	T	A	■	S	P	E	C	■	H	U	E
A	L	T	I	■	S	A	B	O	T	A	G	E
F	L	Y	N	N	■	■	T	O	R	N	■	■
■	■	■	S	U	E	S	■	P	I	A	N	O
S	C	R	A	T	C	H	Y	■	■	K	E	W
P	L	O	Y	■	H	A	S	■	B	Y	T	E
O	U	T	■	■	O	V	E	R	E	A	T	S
T	E	A	S	E	■	E	R	S	T	■	■	■
■	■	T	U	N	E	■	■	A	T	L	A	S
U	P	I	N	A	R	M	S	■	I	O	T	A
P	R	O	■	C	O	O	L	■	N	O	T	A
S	E	N	■	T	S	A	R	■	G	N	A	R

DOWN

1 Gave food to
2 Uganda's Amin
3 Investigation
4 Subsequently
5 Destroy or ruin
6 Dressed
7 Batters or hammers? (5,2)
8 Concerning, in legal terms (2,2)
9 Evenings for poets
10 Scandinavian rug with colourful design
15 International news giants
16 Wig (informal)
19 He can help to change an idea
20 Tax deducted at source, in short
21 Miseries
25 Chastity
26 Completes or finishes
28 Examining or trying
29 Yes __ __ : please give the answer? (2,2)
30 Pouring down
32 Doctor of Sacred Music, abbr.
36 Chinese bear
37 Prefix with "cover" and "please"
38 Amb. attendant
39 Exclude
40 Nitrogenous fertilizer
41 Experiment rooms in colleges, abbr.
42 On-Board Maintenance Sys.
44 ___ hold : a small beginning or advantage?
45 Aliens?



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

QA'F MQA UEVO SW PSNA XQS'F QANA

MOSTZ TVO QANA MSISNNSX.

TODAY'S CLUE: Q EQUALS H

Thursday's Cryptoquip: We should measure affection, not like youngsters by the ardor of its passion, but by its strength and constancy.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** Ph: 2520494
  Hayagrriva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** Mob: 99008-20093
  Rakkasapuradhol (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
  Vadam (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
  The Rise of Ashoka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** Ph: 2443568
  Sampathige Savaal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** Mob: 98454-14691
  O' Romeo (H) - 3 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** Ph: 2420885
  Majestic-2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** Ph: 2423554
  Kanchana 2 (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** Mob: 98863-25207
  O' Romeo 3 (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	(S-1)	10.00 am, 1.20 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.00 pm, 9.50 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	(S-3)	10.50 am, 1.30 pm
Hayagrriva (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-3)	7.25 pm
Aakash (K)	(S-4)	10.55 am, 1.40 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.05 pm 9.30 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Akash (K)	:	1.30 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.30 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Akash (K)	:	11.45 am, 3.00 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.10 pm, 4.20 pm, 8.30 pm
Marty Supreme (E)	:	12.55 pm, 6.40 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	1.45 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.00 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	2.00 pm, 7.25 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	4.00 pm
Hayagrriva (K)	:	4.20 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.45 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Akash (K)	:	11.00 am, 2.15 pm, 5.30 pm, 8.45 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	11.05 am, 3.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	11.10 am, 4.50 pm, 8.30 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	1.50 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	6.05 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.00 pm

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Akash (K)	:	11.15 am, 2.30 pm, 5.45 pm, 9.00 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	11.40 am
Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.00 pm, 5.35 pm
Sesha 2016 (K)	:	3.00 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	4.10 pm, 9.15 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	6.55 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.10 pm, 4.20 pm, 8.30 pm
Akash (K)	:	12.40 pm, 2.40 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	12.45 pm, 3.30 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.00 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	3.55 pm
Maggi Pusthaka (K)	:	5.55 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Centre committed to support sports: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya

Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs lays foundation for multi-purpose sports stadium costing Rs. 14 crore

Union Ministers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya & H.D. Kumaraswamy performing 'guddali puja' for the construction of multipurpose sports stadium at VC Farm in Mandya yesterday as MLA Darshan Puttannaiah, former MLA C.S. Puttaraju, DC Dr. Kumara, ZP CEO K.R. Nandini, SP Dr. V.J. Shobha Rani and others look on.

Mandya, Mar. 15 (MR&VNS)- The Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has provided special preference for sports by allocating sufficient funds over the past 11 years, said Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, here yesterday.

Speaking after laying a foundation stone for a multi-purpose sports stadium at a cost of Rs. 14 crore at VC Farm here, he said, the Government of India had ensured to take sports to each and every village, town and schools in country through Khelo India.

"The Central Government has also provided assistance to special athletes to encourage sports. This year, sufficient allocations have been made to Sports Ministry in the recently presented Union Budget," he added.

Mansukh Mandaviya also remembered the contributions of athletes Vikas Gowda of Mysuru and K.P. Shilpa of Mandya, who had made the country proud at the international level. He mentioned Shilpa hailing from district has grown up to become India's No. 1 wheelchair women's tennis player.

Rs. 1,000 cr. automobile testing centre

Speaking on the occasion, Mandya MP and Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries, H.D. Kumaraswamy, said efforts were in progress to establish an automobile testing centre in Mandya at a cost of Rs. 1,000 cr.

"The vehicles manufactured in Karnataka have to be transported to Pune or Chennai for testing. I have requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to establish a testing centre in Mandya for the benefit of the automobile industry in the State. Not only testing centre, we are also looking at bringing start-up companies in the district," he added.

Kumaraswamy also mentioned that he had written to the State Government asking for the land to set up new industry. "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has mentioned in his Budget that 100-acre land would be provided for industrial development. Till now, it has only been mentioned in the book, I will wait till the land is allocated," he said.

The event also witnessed distribution of 388 e-tricycles to specially-abled, computers to 600 schools, ambulance to Government Hospital under the CSR initiatives of various companies including Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), TVS and Infosys among others.

Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji, MLA H.T. Manju and Darshan Puttannaiah, MLC K. Vivekananda, former MLAs C.S. Puttaraju, D.C. Thammanna, K. Suresh Gowda, Dr. K. Annadani and G.B. Shivakumar, ManMUL Director B.R. Ramachandra and others were present.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 15)

- **Mysore Fashion Week:** Season-8, Silent Shores Resort, Spa and Convention Centre, **5 pm onwards.**
- **Parampare, Mysuru and Bannanje Govindacharya Pratishtana, Bengaluru:** 'Bannanje 90ra Vishwa Namana,' Dr. H.V. Nagaraja Rao presides and delivers main speech, retd. VC of Karnataka Sanskrit University Prof. Mallepuram G. Venkatesh delivers keynote address, artist Ganjifa Raghupathi Bhat, retd. Director of Mysuru Akashvani Jayashree Shyanbhag, scholar Vid. G.N. Bhatta will deliver talks, Veena Bannanje proposes vote of thanks, Ganabharathi's Ramagovinda Kalavedike, Kuvempunagar, **5.30 pm.**
- **Rangavalli, Mysuru:** Staging of comedy play 'Parameshi Prema Prasanga,' written by Srinivas Prabhu and directed by Raviprasad, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **Rangayana:** Staging of play 'Handi-Mandi' (based on 'Animal Farm' of George Orwell), directed by Shakeel Ahmed, Bhoomigeeta auditorium, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm and 8.10 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 16)

- **University of Mysore, Consortium for Educational Communication, New Delhi & EMRC, Manasagangothri:** Inauguration of 2-Day National Seminar on 'Transforming Education for the Future Intelligent, Inclusive & Immersive Learning,' Bahadur Institute of Management Studies (BIMS), Hunsur Road, **10.30 am.**

Exhibitions to conclude today

Mysuru, Mar. 15- Gandhi Shilp Bazaar, the 152nd Handicrafts Exhibition and Sale underway at JSS Mysore Urban Haat in Hebbal 2nd Stage will conclude today at 9 pm.

Also, the Indian Dastkaar Handloom & Handicraft Haat's exhibition on Handlooms, Handicrafts & Lifestyle products at Scouts & Guides Ground, behind Old DC's Office, will conclude at 9.30 pm today.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Secretary of Mar Thoma Education Society, Vishweshwaranagar, Mysore-570008 invites sealed tender from qualified building contractors for the construction of School building at Jayapura, Mysore taluk as per the drawing and specification of the work

1	Name of work	Construction of School Building at Jayapura, Mysore
2	Location of Work	Survey No 141/1,At Jayapura P.O, HD Kote Rd. Mysore Taluk
3	Brief Description of Work	Construction of school building in Reinforced concrete Structure completed to the required function, it is intended, Landscape development and construction of other related structures complete.
4	Tender Security	Rs. 5 Lakh (DD in favor of "Mar Thoma Education Society")
5	Tender Submission Fee	Rs. 5000/- (Tender document Fee)
6	Period of Completion	20 Months
7	Class of tendering	Any registered contractor with class II and above
8	Last Date and Time of Submission of Tender	On or before 20th April 2026 at 5.00 pm
9	Date and Time of Tender opening	29th April 2026 at 11.00 am Venue: Mar Thoma Education Society, Vishweshwaranagar, Mysore-570008

Tender Forms, drawing and documents can be received from the office of The Secretary of Mar Thoma Education Society, Vishweshwaranagar, Mysore-570008, on payment of Rs5000/-from 15 th March 2026 between the working hours of the office but not after 4 pm on 20th April 2026. Completed tender shall be submitted in sealed covers to Secretary at Secretary's Office till 20th April 2026 at 5.00 pm.
The tender forms should be completed in all respect, any information missing but are necessary, will lead to the rejection of the tender without any prior notice to the tenderer.
The officer in charge or the officer deputed for, shall have the full right to reject any tender at his decision without assigning any reason to the tenderer. He is having the full right to ask for any additional information necessary either from all the tenderers or any individual tenderer.
MES has the right to include or delete any of the clauses or modify if found necessary during the course of execution of the work.
5% of the total of the construction will be kept as retention amount and it will be released only after 12 month from the date of obtaining completion certificate.
This notice will be displayed in the Notice board of the office of Mar Thoma Education Society, Vishweshwaranagar, Mysore-570008.

Sd/- Secretary,
Mar Thoma Education Society,
Vishweshwaranagar, Mysore-570008

Date : 15.03.2026